

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9687

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0335

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UR

SUBJECT: NATO DISCUSSION OF US-USSR TRADE AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 011710 B. USNATO 0158

1. ON JANUARY 20, AMBASSADOR BRUCE CALLED ON ACTING SYG PANSA AND, DRAWING FULLY ON GUIDANCE IN REF A, URGED HIM TO DEFER SCHEDULED POLADS DISCUSSION OF THE SOVIET DECISION CONCERNING THE 1972 US-USSR TRADE AGREEMENT. PANSA AGREED TO STRIKE THIS ITEM FROM AGENDA OF JANUARY 21 POLADS MEETING BUT REQUESTED BRUCE TO REPEAT TO PERMREPS, AT JANUARY 21 LUNCHEON, REASONS WHY U.S. WISHED TO POSTPONE SUCH DISCUSSION AT THIS TIME. BRUCE AGREED TO DO SO. PANSA ALSO POSTPONED JANUARY 21 POLADS MEETING FROM MORNING TO AFTERNOON SO THAT IT WOULD TAKE PLACE AFTER PERMREPS LUNCH.

2. AT PERMREPS LUNCH, BRUCE INFORMED HIS COLLEAGUES ON THE COUNCIL THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS STILL STUDYING THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THE SOVIET ACTION AND THEREFORE BELIEVES NO USEFUL PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED BY IMMEDIATE SPECULATION REGARDING SOVIET MOTIVES. BRUCE URGED THAT ALLIES DEFER FOR THE TIME BEING ANY DISCUSSION IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ALLIANCE OF THIS SOVIET MOVE. HE STATED THAT THE U.S., OF COURSE, RECOGNIZES THE LEGITIMATE INTEREST AMONG ITS ALLIES IN THIS ISSUE, AND THE U.S. INTENDS TO BRIEF AND CONSULT WITH THEM ON THIS MATTER AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.
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PERMREPS AGREED.

3. AT JANUARY 21 POLADS, CHAIRMAN (KASTL) BRIEFLY REPORTED PERMREPS' DECISION. THE COMMITTEE NOTED THIS AND SOVIET CANCELLA-

TION OF THE US-USSR TRADE AGREEMENT WAS NOT DISCUSSED.
BRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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